

Preface

Field Manual (FM) 3-07, Stability Operations and Support Operations, is Tier 1 (principal) doctrine. This manual discusses distinct characteristics of stability operations and support operations, together with doctrinal foundations that facilitate their accomplishment. It amplifies FM 3-0 Chapters 9 and 10. FM 3-07 is conceptual, aiming more at broad understanding than at details of operations.

SCOPE

This manual provides the analytical tools needed to evaluate a stability operation or a support operation. Chapter 1 broadly defines stability operations and support operations. It gives historical examples and provides insight into the contemporary situation. It describes both US policies relating to these actions and the Army's role in them. Chapter 2 discusses planning considerations. Chapters 3 and 4 discuss foreign internal defense and peace operations respectively. Chapter 5 covers additional stability operations not previously discussed, to include counterdrug operations. Chapter 6 discusses the two types and four forms of support operations.

APPLICABILITY

This manual applies to commanders and staffs at all echelons. It addresses the tasks associated with conducting (planning, preparing, executing, and assessing) stability operations and support operations. Tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) for specific types of operations in peace and conflict and the application of combined arms and services to them are found in other joint and Army publications. Users should still consult JP 3-07 series of manuals for specific joint information.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Cross-references use the new field manual numbering system. The bibliography lists field manuals by new number followed by old number.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns or pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

Within this manual, the United States is understood to refer to the United States and its territories.

Within this manual, the term "president" refers to the president and his delegated representatives.

Stability operations and support operations require soldiers to interact with the populace in the area of operations to a greater extent than in offensive and defensive operations. In a combat situation, most people can be classified as enemies or noncombatants. However, during most support operations and many stability operations, this classification is not precise enough. FM 3-07 uses several terms to categorize people in the area of operations. Each term describes the relationship between the individual or group and the Army force. Together, they provide

a framework for leaders and soldiers to use in deciding how to handle situations requiring interaction with people and organizations in the area of operations. The following discussions are not intended to be definitions. They describe how FM 3-07 uses each term. Commanders may define each term as appropriate to the situation in which they are operating. All terms may apply to military, paramilitary, and civilian personnel and groups.

Enemy describes a hostile individual or group that US forces engage—or have a strong potential to engage—in combat. Within US doctrine, the term *enemy* is used as the object or focus of operations throughout the operations process. In the past, *enemy* was associated with opposing combat forces or individuals, whether the forces were military, paramilitary, or civilians committing hostile acts. However, in some stability operations, especially peace operations, referring to one or more factions as “the enemy” damages the perception of US impartiality and hinders the ability to negotiate a peaceful settlement. Thus, the term is reserved for individuals and groups engaging Army forces or their partners in combat operations. In support operations conducted outside a combat zone, the term *enemy* is inappropriate.

A *belligerent* is a group that is inclined, disposed, or eager to fight. It is likely to have previously engaged in combat operations with other belligerents or against Army forces or their partners. A belligerent is not classified as an enemy until it engages Army forces or their partners in combat or has clear intent and capability to do so. Even then, political considerations may preclude designating the group as *enemy*. For example, the Serbs, Muslims, and Croats were belligerents in Bosnia-Herzegovina, but they are not considered the enemy by coalition forces.

An *adversary* is an individual or group that opposes another, especially with animosity. This opposition may be political, diplomatic, or military. An adversary that uses military force against another group may be a belligerent. An adversary that uses military force against Army forces or their partners may be designated an enemy.

A *faction* is a group that forms a cohesive and contentious minority within a larger group. Factions are often categorized along religious, political, or cultural beliefs. The Kosovars are a faction within the population of greater Yugoslavia. Factions can be adversaries or belligerents, irrespective of the category of the group of which they are a faction.

The glossary lists most terms used in FM 3-07 that have joint or Army definitions. Terms for which FM 3-07 is the proponent manual (the authority) are indicated with an asterisk in the glossary. Definitions for which FM 3-07 is the proponent manual are printed in boldface in the text. For other definitions in the text, the term is italicized and the number of the proponent manual follows the definition.

The proponent of this publication is Headquarters, TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 directly to Commander, US Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, ATTN: ATZL-FD-CD, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-6900.